

TRAINING and TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE for FOOD SERVICE MANAGERS

School Nutrition Regional Administrative Training: This training is geared toward school administrators, clerks and secretaries. Learn about free and reduced-price meal applications, program requirements, and much more. Six regional training sessions will take place in Billings, Great Falls, Havre, Kalispell/Polson area, Wolf Point/Plentywood area and St. Regis/Thompson Falls area during the 2008-09 school year (*more information coming soon!*).

Food Safety/HACCP Training: A training session will be held in the fall of 2008 and spring of 2009. The dates, locations and registration information for the training sessions to be determined at a later time. This training will assist you in meeting USDA's food safety/HACCP requirements. There is no registration fee required, but prior completion of the ServSafe (8-hour) class is required. For more information, check out the School HACCP/Food Safety Web site <http://www.opi.mt.gov/schoolfood/HACCP.html>.

Foodservice Manager Regional Training: This training is geared toward foodservice managers. It will provide something for everyone, both new and experienced managers. Topics will include what to expect during a review, requirements for your programs, tips and tricks for filling out paperwork, and a chance to exchange ideas with other foodservice managers. Six regional training sessions will take place in Billings, Great Falls, Havre, Kalispell/Polson, Wolf Point/Plentywood area and St. Regis/Thompson Falls area during the 2008-09 school year (*more information coming soon!*).

MSNA/OPI Annual Summer Food Service Conference: This three-day conference will take place on June 23-25, 2009 in Great Falls at the Holiday Inn. The pre-conference and conference sessions will provide opportunities to further your certification/professional development in school nutrition.

Cost Control Classes: "Making the Bottom Line a Top Priority," will help you learn effective strategies for running a cost-effective foodservice program. Regional cost control classes will be offered during the 2008-09 school year. The dates, locations and registration information for the training sessions to be determined at a later time. One-on-one assistance is also available. Call School Nutrition Programs at (406) 444-2501 for more information.

School Wellness Policy: Information about this new requirement is available on the OPI Web site <http://www.opi.mt.gov/schoolfood/wellness.html>. Free resources, like the *Recess Before Lunch* guide, *Nutrition SEN\$E*, and *Making It Happen in Montana Schools*, and *Montana School Wellness in Action* are available at <http://www.opi.mt.gov/schoolfood/wellness.html>. Training and technical assistance is available from OPI staff.

Peer Mentor Network: Do you have a problem that needs the expertise of another foodservice manager? The Montana Team Nutrition Program has established a network of school food service trainers from schools throughout Montana who can help you with school nutrition issues. The directory of trainers is on our Web site <http://www.opi.mt.gov/schoolfood/index.html>. Contact the Montana Team Nutrition Program for more information.



PROMOTIONS and READY RESOURCES for FOOD SERVICE MANAGERS

National School Lunch Week: “Vote for School Lunch” during the week of October 13-17, 2008. For more information about this celebration, go to the School Nutrition Association's Web site <http://www.schoolnutrition.org/>.

National School Breakfast Week: “Power Up With School Breakfast” during the week of March 2-6, 2009. For more information about this celebration, go to the School Nutrition Association's Web site <http://www.schoolnutrition.org/>.

HealthierUS School Challenge: This national challenge recognizes schools that provide students with nutritious meals, nutrition education and adequate levels of physical activity. Take the challenge to receive a Silver or Gold award. For more information contact the Montana Team Nutrition Program or go to the following Web site: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/HealthierUS/index.htm>. Congratulations to Billings Public Schools and Bozeman Public Schools for receiving a HealthierUS School Challenge Gold Award during the 2007-08 school year.

Healthier Montana Menu Challenge: This is Montana's own challenge to recognize schools which serve healthy meals and snacks to students at lunch, breakfast and through an a la carte program, if applicable. You are encouraged to apply and receive statewide recognition for your exemplary efforts in supporting school wellness, sound nutrition and healthy role-modeling through your menu. Technical assistance and training is available from the staff of Montana Team Nutrition Program. The application is located at the following link: <http://www.opi.mt.gov/schoolfood/index.html>. Congratulations to Lone Rock School in Stevensville for being the first school to receive this award during the 2007-08 school year. As an incentive for this challenge, the first five districts to receive this award will get a \$500 mini-grant.

Mentoring Grants for School Foodservice Personnel: Are you interested in learning from your peers on topics such as healthful menu planning, cost control or a new meal service procedure (i.e., Grab and Go Lunch)? A limited number of \$300 mini-grants are **available only through September 30, 2008**. These mini-grants are funded by a USDA Team Nutrition Training Grant to support a visit to another school foodservice program. The application is located at the following link: <http://www.opi.mt.gov/schoolfood/index.html>.

Montana Lunchline Listserv: This electronic listserv is a great way to stay connected with the Office of Public Instruction staff and learn from your peers about school nutrition issues. You will receive current information about school nutrition programs, recipes, and ideas to market and promote healthful foods and beverages. To participate, all you need is an e-mail address. Contact Katie Bark by email at kbark@mt.gov if you want to join.

Ready Resources about School Nutrition/Nutrition Education for Students: Links to a variety of nutrition education (including USDA's Eat Smart Play Hard resources) and food service resources will be available soon at the following: <http://www.opi.mt.gov/schoolfood/nutritioned.html>.

NEW RESOURCES for FOOD SERVICE MANAGERS

Check out these resources about nutrition and school wellness. Go to the Web sites for more information or contact the School Nutrition Programs office.

Montana Team Nutrition Program: <http://www.opi.mt.gov/schoolfood/resources.html>

- Eat Smart Be Smart: Teaching Math, Science, and Language Arts Through Nutrition Curriculum Guide (grades K-5)
- Eat Smart to Be Smart: Eat Breakfast Poster
- Farm to School Activities
- Montana School Wellness in Action! A Step-By-Step Guide to School Wellness Policy Implementation
- The Healthy Habits Challenge for Children and Parents

National Cattlemen's Beef Association: <http://www.school-wellness.org/>

- Choose Well – Meet the Power Foods Curriculum
- Enriching Family Meal Times Tool Kit

National Food Service Management Institute: <http://www.nfsmi.org/>

- 2006 Breakfast Lunch Training Module (BLT): Meeting Children's Special Food and Nutrition Needs in Child Nutrition Programs
- Cooks for Kids (series of 8-30 minute satellite training programs)
- On the Road to Professional Food Preparation, 2nd Edition

U.S. Department of Agriculture: <http://www.fns.usda.gov>

- 2005 Dietary Guidelines for Americans Fact Sheets
 - Use Low-fat Milk, Cheese, and Yogurt
 - Jazz Up Your Menu with Fruits
 - Vary Your Vegetables
 - Serve More Dry Beans and Peas
 - Serve More Whole Grains
 - Be Salt Savvy-Cut Back on Sodium
 - Include Fiber-Rich Foods
 - Limit Saturated Fat & Cholesterol
 - Trim Trans Fats
 - Meeting the Challenge of Rising Food Costs for Healthier School Meals
- School Lunch and Breakfast Cost Study II
- Meeting the Challenge of Rising Food Costs for Healthier School Meals
- Eligibility Manual for School Meals – Revised January 2008
- Create Healthy, Active Celebrations

World Hunger Year: http://www.worldhungeryear.org/info_center/farm_to_school.pdf

- Feeding Our Future – A Farm to School Program Guide

DID YOU KNOW?

- During the 2007-08 school year, School Nutrition Programs staff visited 59 schools to conduct administrative/foodservice reviews and provide technical assistance.
- During the 2007-08 school year, 656 (or 82 percent) of the 805 schools providing lunch in Montana also offered breakfast. Contact School Nutrition Programs or Montana Team Nutrition for help with increasing program access and participation or to start a breakfast program at your school.
- During the 2006-07 school year:
 - ✓ 74 schools in Montana did not receive any food safety inspections
 - ✓ 291 schools in Montana received one food safety inspection
 - ✓ 395 schools in Montana received two food safety inspections
 - ✓ 56 schools in Montana did not report

Go to the School Nutrition Programs School HACCP/Food Safety Web site <http://www.opi.mt.gov/schoolfood/HACCP.html> for a sample letter to request a sanitation inspection that you can use if you have not received two inspections during the school year and for other helpful food safety/HACCP resources.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

Montana School Nutrition Programs

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